— Restriction of movement of persons in affected areas
— Standard work precautions
— Safe disposal of bodies of persons dying due to plague.

> Door to door interaction with the population in the affected and adjoining village for dispensing antibiotics, obtaining information about the new cases and educating the people was conducted.

> Fumigation of the patients' houses as well as the transport vehicles was carried out using Formalin (10%).

> About 28,000 to 30,000 people, including doctors, para-medical personnel and health workers were provided with chemoprophylaxis.

> Proper treatment of patients and isolation of cases in the hospitals.

> Quarantine of close contacts.

> IEC campaign focusing on restriction of mobility, immediate reporting to health facility in case of fever etc. and reassuring the public not to panic.

Prevalence of Anaemia among children and women

2270. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 3.5 million people in the country suffer from micronutrient deficiency leading to iron deficiency with anaemia prevalence among children and women; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the nutrition and help the lower strata of society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) As per the National Family Health Survey 1998-99, 52 per cent women and 74 per cent children between age 6—35 months were found to be anaemic. A specific programme to combat anaemia in pregnant women and children is under implementation as a component of Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme. Under this

programme, every pregnant women is given 100 tablets of iron/folic acid (large) for prevention of anaemia. Pregnant women who are anaemic are given an additional 100 tablets. Anaemic children are provided with 100 tablets of iron/folic acid (small).

Several steps have been taken to improve nutritional status of women and children. These include, the Integrated Child Development Scheme which provides supplementary nutrition to young children and pregnant and lactating mothers. Promotion of exclusive breast-feeding up to six months of age and appropriate feeding practices is being undertaken. In addition, to the programme for control of iron deficiency anaemia a programme for control of Vitamin-A deficiency in children is under implementation.

Setting up of an integrated disease surveillance network

2271. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have drawn up a plan to set-up an integrated disease surveillance network throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a pilot project is being set-up initially on a trial basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when, the full scheme is likely to be put in place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) As a Public Health measure, Government of India has been implementing various National Health Programmes, including the National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases. The National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases was launched as a pilot programme in 1997-98 in 5 districts (one each in Kerala, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Haryana and Gujarat) with a view to strengthen the disease surveillance system so that early warning signals of outbreaks are recognized and appropriate follow-up action is initiated. The programme is being implemented through the